

ROMANCES FROM LIFE

DEC. 1955



REAL LOVE

10c



THE BRIDE'S OTHER LIFE

THE PRICE OF LOVING HIM



WEB COMIC
UNIVERSE.COM

GAIN WEIGHT

stop
being

SKINNY!



Now at last—QUICKLY—EASILY put firm, attractive pounds and inches on your body, chest, arms and legs.

**DON'T STAY SKINNY!
GO FROM THIS TO THIS!**

or your money back!

Amazing New Way developed by modern medical science to put on weight on lean bodies. **Guaranteed** to give you up to an extra pound a day! Or your money back! Why should you dread going to parties and socials, simply because you look scrawny and spindly? Why ever feel self-conscious about your body again? If you're **underweight** . . . or just a little on the thin side, due to faulty appetite, or bad dietary habits, you can put on up to a pound a day of attractive weight without exercise . . . dangerous drugs . . . or special diet . . . and more quickly, more easily than you ever dreamed possible . . . with **MORE-WATE**. **MORE-WATE** contains no dangerous drugs . . . you eat it like candy! Yet . . . if you were to have this same prescription compounded to your order, it would cost you many times more. However, through this introductory offer, you can obtain **quick-acting MORE-WATE** tablets . . . a 30 day supply for only \$2.98, with an absolute money-back guarantee! Yes, try **MORE-WATE** for **TEN DAYS** . . . and if not entirely delighted with weight gained, return the unused supply for full refund! You've nothing to lose . . . and **weight to gain!** Act now! Stop being the guy or the gal that everyone calls "skinny." Stop being the guy or the gal who dreads summer and going to parties and socials because it means everyone will enjoy themselves and you won't. Don't be a wallflower, because you have a figure like a broomstick! **Gain more weight!**

IN JUST 24 HOURS START GAINING WEIGHT

The fast acting **MORE-WATE** tablets are **unconditionally guaranteed** to put on weight . . . or it doesn't cost you a penny! **MORE-WATE** is a delicious, full strength, fast acting tablet . . . that combines not just one . . . or two . . . but 4 of the most amazing aids for **gaining weight** known to medical science. **MORE-WATE** is not a liquid . . . not a powder. It's a delicious, **pleasant-tasting tablet!** It contains vitamin B-12 . . . the **amazing red vitamin** doctors give many **underweight patients in hospitals** . . . It contains Iron that helps correct iron deficiency, anemia and builds rich, red blood. It contains appetite-building vitamin B-1 . . . and it contains nutritious easily assimilated malt, the amazing ingredient that helps your body turn much of the food you eat into **well rounded flesh** instead of being wasted. **That's the secret of putting on weight.** Now you can help your food to add new pounds to your arms, chest, hips, thighs, and legs. Now you don't have to be skinny . . . or afraid to be seen socially and be ashamed of your figure! **You must achieve the figure you want . . . or don't pay anything!** Act now!

MORE-WATE is the newest discovery of medical science—entirely safe! Not a drug—not a medicine . . . Instead, a delicious weight-adding tablet that helps your body build new pounds of **HEALTHY, ATTRACTIVE** body weight! You gain **SOLID** good-looking flesh **AUTOMATICALLY** wherever you need it—on face, neck, bust, arms, legs, ankles, etc. (all over!)

START GAINING WEIGHT in 24 HOURS! Amazing new **MORE-WATE** puts on weight **FASTER** THAN ANYTHING KNOWN TO MEDICAL SCIENCE! If you **LOSE APPETITE QUICKLY** . . . If you fill up at meals and lose your appetite, take **MORE-WATE**, the amazing concentrated **fast acting** tablet that tastes delicious and works **weight-gaining** wonders.

WHY BE SKINNY?

Now you can quickly put on 10 to 20 pounds or more of well-rounded pounds so fast it will amaze you! Like **MAGIC** skinny, broom-stick figures fill out all over the body into a beautiful new "LOOK" that wins popularity! **MORE-WATE** promotes appetite, new pep, vigor and red-blooded vitality. **DON'T BE SKINNY! SEND FOR MORE-WATE** delicious tasting, fast acting tablets **TODAY!**

TEST AT OUR RISK

Mail the coupon below for your generous supply of **MORE-WATE**! Only \$2.98 for full generous supply or \$8 for the triple generous large economy size on the guarantee if the first package doesn't increase your weight to your satisfaction, return the empty package for full money-back refund. **MAIL THE COUPON NOW! CHILDREN—get mom or dad to order for you!**

MAIL THIS NO-RISK COUPON TODAY!

MORE-WATE CO., Dept. 62
318 Market St., Newark, New Jersey

☐ SEND ONE large generous supply of **MORE-WATE**. I enclose \$2.98 cash, check or M.O. on **GUARANTEE** I must be delighted with first package or money-back when I return empty package. (I save up to 90c by sending payment with order.)

☐ CHECK HERE IF YOU WANT 3 for \$6. (Save \$3.)

Name.....

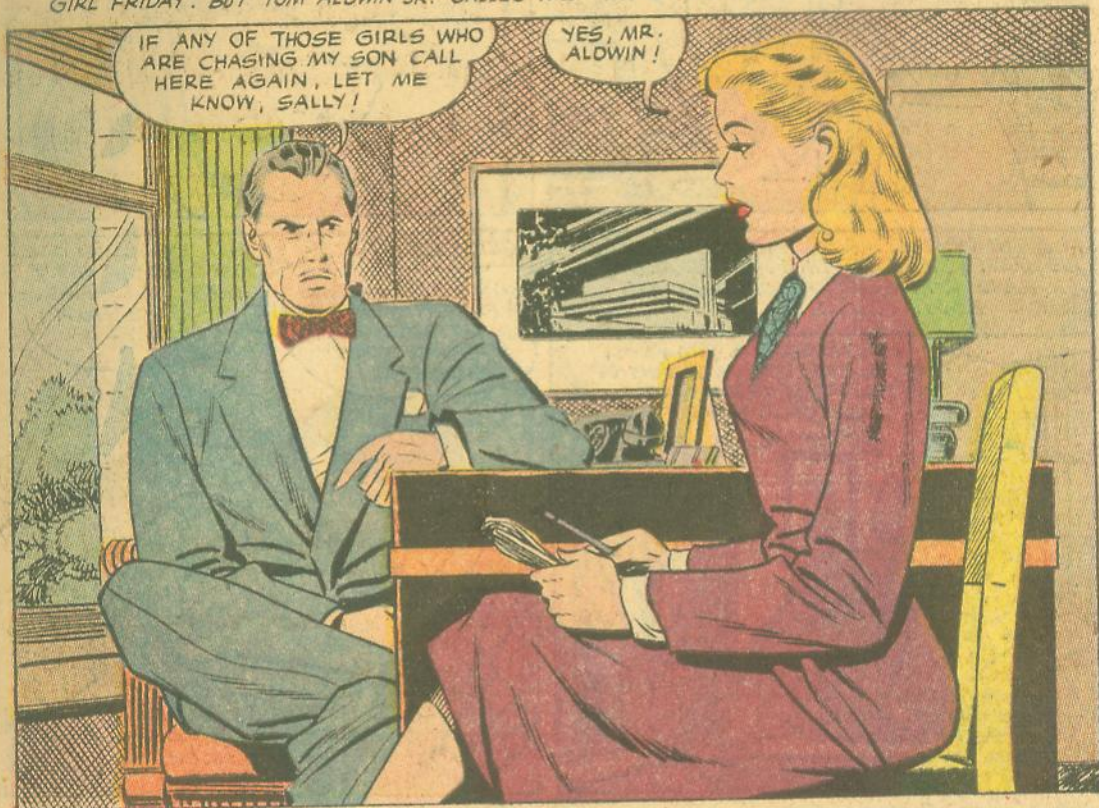
Address.....

City..... Zone..... State.....

SENT ON APPROVAL — MAKE AMAZING 10-DAY TEST

The BRIDE'S OTHER LIFE

I'D BEEN EIGHTEEN AND JUST OUT OF BUSINESS SCHOOL WHEN I GOT A JOB WITH ALDWIN COMPANY. NOW I WAS SECRETARY TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE FIRM, THOMAS ALDWIN, AND MY JOB WAS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IN MY LIFE. BECAUSE OF THE WAY MR. ALDWIN TRUSTED ME AND DEPENDED ON ME, THE OTHER EMPLOYEES CALLED ME "OLD ALDWIN'S GIRL FRIDAY". BUT TOM ALDWIN JR. CALLED ME "POP'S YES-GIRL"...



IF ANY OF THOSE GIRLS WHO ARE CHASING MY SON CALL HERE AGAIN, LET ME KNOW, SALLY!

YES, MR. ALDWIN!

TOM HAD BEEN AWAY AT COLLEGE WHEN I FIRST CAME TO THE ALDWIN COMPANY. I'D HAVE GONE OFF THE DEEP END WHEN I FINALLY MET HIM IF I HADN'T KNOWN SO WELL WHAT HE WAS LIKE BENEATH HIS HANDSOMENESS AND CHARM. HIS FATHER HAD TOLD ME HE WAS HEADSTRONG, STUBBORN, RECKLESS, AND BENT ON GETTING HIS OWN WAY...

WRITE MY SON A LETTER! TELL HIM NO ONE IN THIS COMPANY TAKES A MONTH'S VACATION, AND I EXPECT HIM BACK AT HIS DESK IN THE PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT IMMEDIATELY!



DON'T MENTION THOSE GIRLS WHO HAVE BEEN CALLING! BUT MAYBE YOU'D BETTER TALK TO THEM WHEN THEY CALL, SALLY! TELL THEM IF THEY'RE CHASING HIM FOR HIS MONEY, HE DOESN'T HAVE A CENT OF HIS OWN!

YES, MR. ALDWIN!





I CAN ALWAYS DEPEND ON YOU, SALLY! THAT'S MORE THAN I CAN SAY FOR MY SON!



SOMETIMES I THINK MR. ALDWIN IS A LITTLE TOO HARD ON TOM, AND IT HARDLY SEEMS FAIR TO EXPECT ME TO TELL OF HIS GIRL FRIENDS! IT CERTAINLY ISN'T GOING TO MAKE ME VERY POPULAR WITH TOM! I'M BEGINNING TO THINK MR. ALDWIN MAY BE THE HEADSTRONG AND STUBBORN ONE!



IN SPITE OF WHAT MR. ALDWIN THOUGHT ABOUT HIS SON, IT WAS GETTING HARDER AND HARDER FOR ME TO STOP DREAMING ABOUT TOM...

I WONDER IF TOM REALLY IS IN LOVE WITH ANY OF THE GIRLS WHO CALL HERE?



SUDDENLY...

DON'T TELL ME THE EFFICIENT MISS MCNAIR IS SITTING AROUND WASTING TIME DREAMING!

WHY, TOM! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? I WAS JUST GOING TO WRITE YOU A LETTER!



GO RIGHT AHEAD, MY DEAR MISS MCNAIR! AND FOR ONCE, I WISH YOU'D PUT A LITTLE FEELING INTO IT! IF YOU'D STOP COPYING POP'S CURT STYLE AND DEVELOP A STYLE OF YOUR OWN...



IMITATION IS A VERY BAD FAULT IN A WRITER, MY DEAR MISS MCNAIR!

I'M NOT A WRITER, AND I'M NOT YOUR DEAR MISS MCNAIR! I'M YOUR FATHER'S SECRETARY!

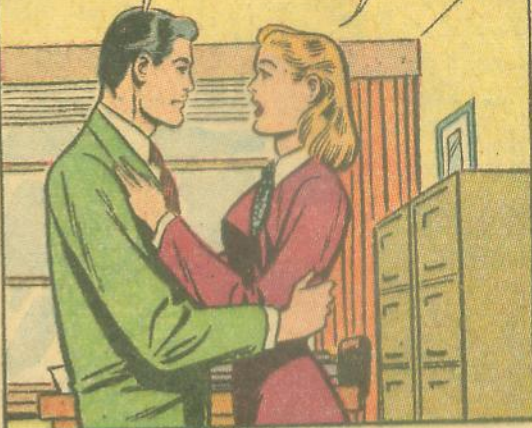
HIS PERFECT SECRETARY!
BY THE WAY, DID I EVER
TELL YOU THAT YOU'RE
THE PRETTIEST GIRL I
KNOW, SALLY?

I MIGHT BELIEVE
THAT IF I DIDN'T
KNOW YOUR LINE
WITH GIRLS!



I COULD PROVE TO YOU THIS
WASN'T A LINE IF YOU WEREN'T
SO COMPLETELY TIED UP
WITH POP!

PLEASE!



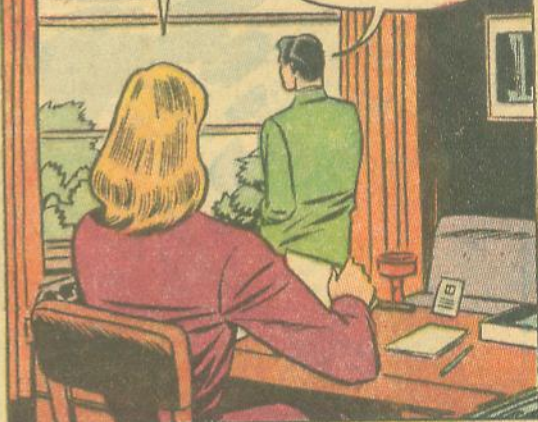
DIDN'T YOU
MISS ME
WHILE I
WAS
GONE,
SALLY?

Y--ES! NO! OF COURSE NOT!
BUT YOUR FATHER WAS ANGRY
BECAUSE YOU STAYED AWAY
SO LONG!



YOU OUGHT TO TAKE
MORE INTEREST IN THE
BUSINESS! YOU KNOW
HOW MUCH IT MEANS
TO YOUR FATHER!

POP KNOWS I'M NOT
INTERESTED IN THE
MANUFACTURING
BUSINESS! I WANT
TO BE A NEWS-
PAPERMAN!



I'VE BEEN VISITING BUD EWING,
A COLLEGE PAL OF MINE, WHO
JUST BOUGHT A LITTLE
COUNTRY NEWSPAPER!
HE WANTS ME TO GO
IN WITH HIM! BUT I
PROMISED POP I'D
STICK IT OUT HERE
FOR A YEAR!

YOU'D LIKE
THIS BUSINESS
IF YOU'D GIVE
YOURSELF A CHANCE
TO LIKE IT! I KNOW
YOU WOULD!



BECAUSE YOU AND POP LIKE IT, I OUGHT TO,
EH? WELL, I'LL TRY! WHY DON'T YOU HAVE
DINNER WITH ME TONIGHT AND SELL ME
SOME ENTHUSIASM?

I-- WELL, ALL
RIGHT!



THAT NIGHT I FORGOT THAT I WAS THOMAS ALDWIN'S PERFECT SECRETARY. I WAS JUST A GIRL HAVING A WONDERFUL TIME WITH A MAN WHO FILLED HER WITH A STRANGE, NEW EXCITEMENT...



I WISHED THE EVENING NEVER HAD TO END. WHEN TOM DROVE ME HOME AND PARKED IN FRONT OF MY HOUSE...

SALLY, LOOK AT ME! A GIRL WHO'S SUPPOSED TO BE THE BEST SECRETARY IN TOWN OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO TELL WHEN A MAN'S IN LOVE WITH HER!

LOVE? YOU-- YOU CAN'T MEAN YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH ME!



I MEAN I'VE GIVEN UP! I'VE BEEN TRYING FOR TWO YEARS TO SELL MYSELF ON THE IDEA THAT I HADN'T FALLEN IN LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT WITH POP'S 'YES GIRL'!



I'VE EVEN TRIED PLAYING THE FIELD, HOPING THAT I'D FIND A GIRL I COULD LOVE, BUT IT WAS NO GO! YOU WERE THE ONE-- THE ONLY ONE, SALLY DARLING!

I GUESS I'VE BEEN TRYING ALL ALONG TO TELL MYSELF I DIDN'T LOVE YOU! BUT I DO!



I WAS SWEEPED AWAY BY A STORM OF EMOTIONS I'D NEVER KNOWN BEFORE...

SWEETHEART!

OH, TOM!



THEN SUDDENLY, I REMEMBERED THAT THIS WAS MY EMPLOYER'S SON!

OH, TOM! IT WON'T WORK!

WHY?



YOUR FATHER WILL THINK I'M LIKE THOSE OTHER GIRLS WHO HAVE BEEN CHASING YOU!

SO THAT'S IT! JUST NOW I WAS THINKING HOW WONDERFUL IT WAS TO HOLD YOU IN MY ARMS! I WASN'T THINKING OF POP. BUT I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN YOU WOULD BE! DON'T YOU EVER THINK OF ANYTHING ELSE?





DON'T BE LIKE THAT, TOM! I'M THINKING OF YOU AS WELL AS YOUR FATHER! I DON'T WANT TO BE THE ONE TO CAUSE TROUBLE BETWEEN YOU!



LET ME DO THE WORRYING ABOUT THAT! THE ONLY THING THAT WILL BOTHER HIM IS LOSING YOU AS A SECRETARY!

I HOPE YOU'RE RIGHT!



THE NEXT MORNING, WHEN WE CONFRONTED HIS FATHER...

OF COURSE, I APPROVE! I NEVER THOUGHT YOU'D HAVE SENSE ENOUGH, TOM, TO FALL FOR A WONDERFUL GIRL LIKE SALLY!



AND AFTER YOU'RE MARRIED, THERE'S NO REASON WHY SALLY CAN'T KEEP ON BEING MY SECRETARY!

NIX ON THAT, POP! THAT'S NOT MY IDEA OF MARRIAGE!

MR. ALDWIN GRUMBLED, BUT HE FINALLY GAVE IN. I FOUND ANOTHER SECRETARY FOR HIM. THEN TOM AND I WERE MARRIED AND WENT ON A SHORT HONEYMOON. WHEN WE GOT BACK, I COULDN'T BELIEVE THE TIME WOULD PASS SO QUICKLY, JUST BEING A HOUSEWIFE. TOM AND I WERE SO TERRIBLY IN LOVE, SO BLISSFULLY HAPPY!



OH, TOM, YOUR FATHER HAS BEEN MARVELOUS TO US, SETTING US UP IN THIS LOVELY APARTMENT AND GIVING ME A CAR OF MY VERY OWN!

MARRYING YOU WAS THE FIRST THING I'D EVER DONE THAT POP APPROVED OF!

YOU AND YOUR FATHER HAVE JUST NEVER UNDERSTOOD EACH OTHER, DARLING!



POP DOESN'T UNDERSTAND ANYONE WHO DARES TO HAVE AN IDEA OF HIS OWN!

I SOON REALIZED THAT THE CONFLICT BETWEEN TOM AND HIS FATHER MIGHT COMPLICATE MY MARRIAGE. ONE EVENING...

SALLY, I'VE HAD AN AWFUL DAY! THAT SECRETARY YOU DUG UP IS DRIVING ME CRAZY!



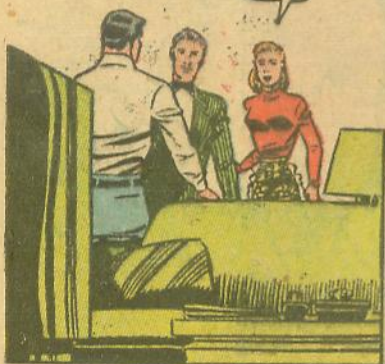
SHE WAS VERY HIGHLY RECOMMENDED AND I TRIED TO GIVE HER AN IDEA OF HER DUTIES!

WELL, YOU'D BETTER COME DOWN AND TRY AGAIN! SHE NEVER SEEMS TO KNOW HOW I WANT THINGS DONE! NOTHING'S BEEN RIGHT SINCE YOU LEFT!



STOP BOTHERING MY COOK WHEN SHE HAS A ROAST IN THE OVEN! BETTER STAY TO DINNER, POP, AND SEE WHAT A SWELL COOK SALLY REALLY IS!

YES, DO STAY!



DINNER WAS A NIGHTMARE. MR. ALOWIN INSISTED ON TALKING ABOUT THE OFFICE, AND TOM KEPT INTERRUPTING TO TALK ABOUT MY HOUSEKEEPING...

I NEVER REALIZED HOW MUCH YOU TOOK OFF MY SHOULDERS, SALLY!

SALLY IS A WONDERFUL HOUSEKEEPER! HAVE YOU NOTICED HOW THIS PLACE SHINES, POP?



I'M DEPENDING ON YOU TO COME IN TOMORROW AND GET THAT SECRETARY STRAIGHTENED OUT, SALLY!

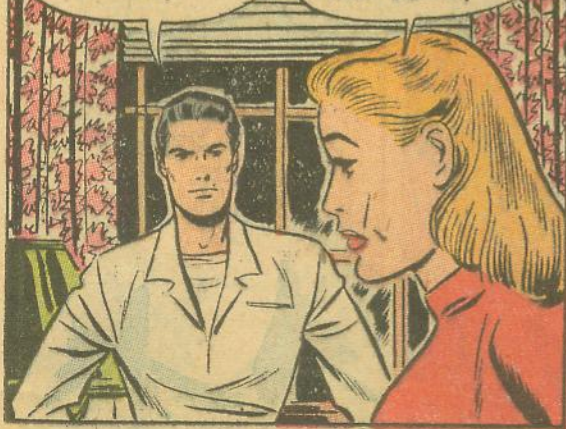
I--I'D PLANNED ON DOING THE LAUNDRY TOMORROW, BUT I GUESS IT CAN WAIT!



AFTER TOM'S FATHER LEFT...

SO POP WON AFTER ALL! YOU'RE GOING BACK TO THE OFFICE!

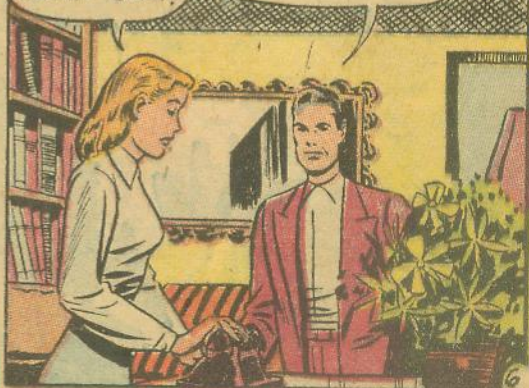
OH, DARLING, IT'S AN EMERGENCY! I COULDN'T LET HIM DOWN!



AS THE WEEKS PASSED, I ANSWERED MANY EMERGENCY CALLS FROM MR. ALOWIN...

YOUR FATHER WANTS ME TO COME DOWN TO THE OFFICE AGAIN TODAY!

YOU SHOULD HAVE MARRIED POP INSTEAD OF ME, THE WAY YOU STILL JUMP WHEN HE CALLS!



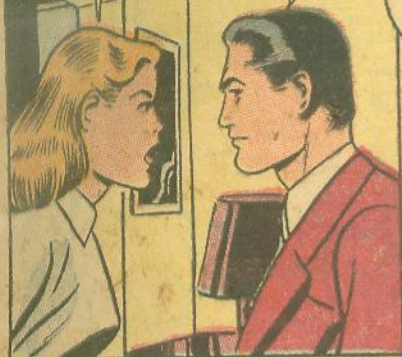
YOU'RE BEING CHILDISH! AT LEAST ONE OF US SHOULD TAKE AN INTEREST IN THE COMPANY! YOUR FATHER KNOWS YOU'RE NOT SATISFIED WITH YOUR JOB THERE!

HE'S RIGHT! I STILL WANT TO BE A NEWSPAPERMAN!

THE YEAR I PROMISED TO WORK FOR POP IS UP TOMORROW, BUT I CAN'T MAKE YOU UNDERSTAND HOW I FEEL ANY MORE THAN I CAN MAKE POP UNDERSTAND! YOU KEEP TRYING TO SELL ME ON THE ALDWIN COMPANY BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT POP WANTS YOU TO DO!

YOU'RE STILL POP'S "YES GIRL", AND YOU ALWAYS WILL BE!

TOM!



I COULD HARDLY CONCENTRATE THAT DAY ON THE JOB I HAD TO DO FOR MY FATHER-IN-LAW. AS SOON AS IT WAS FINISHED...

I'VE BEEN UNHAPPY ABOUT OUR QUARREL ALL DAY, AND I'M SURE TOM HAS, TOO! I'LL GO TO HIS OFFICE AND TELL HIM I'M SORRY!



WHEN I APPROACHED TOM'S OFFICE, I HEARD VOICES. THEN I SAW TOM AND A GIRL...

BUT, TOM, YOU OWE IT TO YOURSELF! YOU CAN'T GO ON LIKE THIS FOREVER! YOU MIGHT AS WELL MAKE A CLEAN BREAK NOW! THIS IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY! WE COULD HAVE SUCH FUN TOGETHER!



I TURNED AND FLED...

THAT'S PROBABLY ONE OF THE GIRLS WHO USED TO CALL TOM UP! HE'S TURNED TO HER, TOLD HER HE'S UNHAPPY WITH ME! AND SHE'S URGING HIM TO LEAVE ME!



I HURRIED BACK TO THE APARTMENT. I WANTED TO DIE. I WAS SURPRISED WHEN TOM CAME HOME EARLY...

WHY DID YOU BOTHER TO COME HOME? I HEARD THAT GIRL IN YOUR OFFICE TODAY-- URGING YOU TO LEAVE ME, TELLING YOU WHAT FUN YOU COULD HAVE WITH HER!



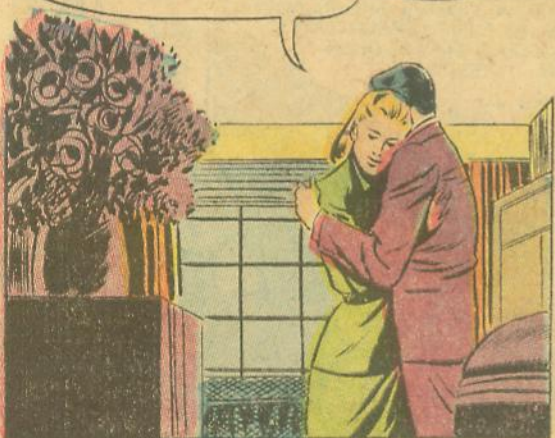
MY SILLY DARLING! THAT WAS BUD EWING'S WIFE! SHE WAS TALKING ABOUT THE PAPER! BUD LEFT HER IN MY OFFICE WHILE HE WENT DOWN TO THE BANK! THEY CAME TO TOWN TO URGE ME AGAIN TO BUY PART OF THEIR PAPER! SHE WANTED TO MEET YOU!



SHE HELPS BUD RUN THE PAPER, AND SHE THOUGHT IF WE BOUGHT A SHARE, WE COULD ALL WORK TOGETHER AND HAVE FUN! BUT I NEVER WANT TO FEEL LIKE I FELT AFTER WE QUARRELED THIS MORNING, DARLING, SO YOU'LL HEAR NO MORE ABOUT THE NEWSPAPER BUSINESS!



OH, TOM, I ALMOST DIED WHEN I THOUGHT I MIGHT HAVE LOST YOUR LOVE! I REALIZED THEN THAT MY JOB NOW IS TO MAKE YOU HAPPY! OH, THERE'S THE TELEPHONE. I'LL ANSWER IT!



I HAD A HUNCH MY FATHER-IN-LAW WAS ON THE OTHER END, AND I WAS RIGHT...

NO, I'M SORRY! I CAN'T COME TO THE OFFICE TOMORROW OR ANY OTHER DAY! YOU'LL HAVE TO LEARN TO RUN THE BUSINESS WITHOUT TOM AND ME!



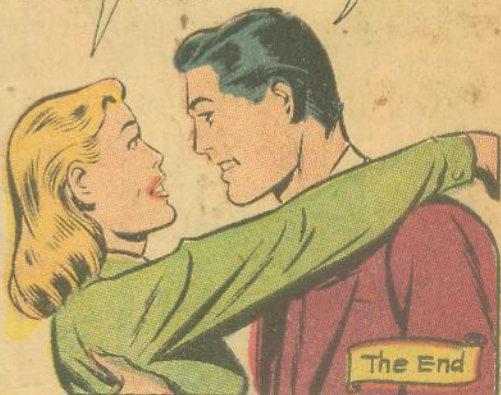
WE'RE GOING INTO THE NEWSPAPER BUSINESS BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT TOM WANTS TO DO! I WAS A PERFECT SECRETARY FOR A LONG TIME, BUT FROM NOW ON I'M CONCENTRATING ON BEING A PERFECT WIFE!

OH, SALLY, SALLY, THERE'S NO ONE IN THE WORLD LIKE YOU!



POP ISN'T MAD AT US AFTER ALL! HE SAYS MAYBE HE CAN GET A GRANDCHILD OR TWO WHO WILL BE INTERESTED IN THE ALDWIN COMPANY!

WELL, WE'LL TRY TO DO THAT MUCH FOR HIM, DARLING!



The End

The Price of Loving Him

HELLO! SAY, YOU LOOK BORED WITH THIS PARTY, TOO. LET'S DUCK OUT! I KNOW A CHARMING PLACE WHERE THE MUSIC'S GOOD AND THE FOOD TERRIFIC!

I - ALL RIGHT! I'M GAME!

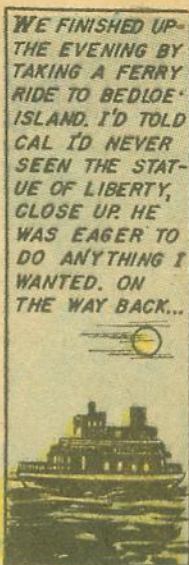
I WAS THE ONLY WOMAN STAGE MANAGER ON BROADWAY. I WAS A SUCCESS, AND I WAS USED TO HAVING ACTORS TRY TO MAKE LOVE TO ME BECAUSE THEY WERE AMBITIOUS. BUT WHEN I MET CAL PATRICK AT A COCKTAIL PARTY, I FORGOT TO BE WARY. I THOUGHT HE LIKED ME...

MY NAME'S CAL PATRICK. I KNOW YOU'RE ALICIA STRONG, THE GIRL STAGE MANAGER. YOU'RE REALLY A BIG SHOT!

SOMETIMES I WISH I WEREN'T!

YOU'RE DISAPPOINTED BECAUSE I KNOW WHO YOU ARE, BUT DON'T YOU SEE -- I'M BEING HONEST!

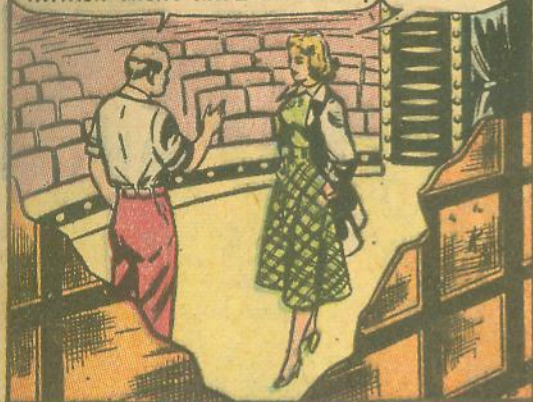
I'M GLAD OF THAT, CAL. BECAUSE I... LIKE YOU!



I WAS TINGLING WITH HAPPINESS. BUT THE VERY NEXT DAY, THE BLOW FELL...

LOOK, DARLING, THIS IS NONE OF MY BUSINESS, BUT—HAVE YOU FIGURED THAT THIS CAL PATRICK MIGHT HAVE AN ANGLE?

WHO HASN'T, NORWOOD?



NORWOOD GATES WAS THE "MR. BIG" OF SHOW BUSINESS...

WE'VE TRIED TO KEEP THIS QUIET, ALICIA, BUT THERE'S A FAT PART IN THIS SHOW FOR A MAN WHO PLAYS PIANO WELL. CAL PATRICK'S JOB IS TICKLING THE IVORIES, ISN'T IT?

WHY, YES, NORWOOD, BUT...



DESPITE MYSELF, I STARTED QUESTIONING CAL'S LOVE. THAT NIGHT, AT MY APARTMENT, HE BROUGHT UP THE PLAY...

I HEAR YOU START CASTING YOUR NEW PLAY TOMORROW, ALICIA / WOULD IT BOTHER YOU, IF I ADDITIONED FOR THE PART OF SUTTON, THE BLIND PIANO PLAYER?

WHY—WHY, NO, CAL / I—I THINK YOU'LL GET THE PART. YOU'RE A NATURAL FOR IT!



I FELT COLD. I KNEW THE CHILL CAME FROM MY HEART AS SUSPICION GREW. HAD CAL BECOME ENGAGED TO ME TO FURTHER HIS OWN CAREER? I HAD TO KNOW. HE LEFT VERY EARLY, SAYING HE WANTED TO PREPARE FOR THE AUDITION. A FEW MINUTES LATER, SOMEONE RANG THE DOOR-BELL...

CAL WOULD JUST ABOUT KILL ME IF HE KNEW I'D COME TO YOU / BUT YOU'VE GOT EVERYTHING, AND I'VE GOT NOTHING!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT!



I'M LEE GRANT, CAL'S EX-GIRL-FRIEND / HE TURNED ME DOWN, JUST SO HE COULD GET A PART IN A NORWOOD GATES SHOW!

I THINK YOU'D BETTER LEAVE, MISS GRANT!



I DIDN'T WANT TO BELIEVE LEE, BUT...

I'M TRYING NOT TO LET ALL THIS TALK POISON MY MIND, BUT I WISH YOU DIDN'T FIT INTO THAT LEADING ROLE SO WELL!



AT THE THEATER, THE NEXT DAY, I HAD A PLAN...

WILL YOU DO SOMETHING FOR ME, NORWOOD? EVEN IF CAL RATES GETTING THE PART, TURN HIM DOWN!

I DON'T GET THIS, ALICIA!



DON'T ASK ANY QUESTIONS, NORWOOD. JUST BACK ME UP WHEN I TURN CAL DOWN COLD!

I HOPE YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING, ALICIA!



CAL WAS MAGNIFICENT IN THE PART...

HE'S GREAT, ALICIA! YOU CAN'T TELL HIM HE'S NO GOOD!

TRY THE PIANO SEQUENCES NOW, CAL!



ALL RIGHT -- THAT'S ENOUGH! SORRY, CAL! I'M AFRAID YOU WON'T DO! DO YOU AGREE WITH ME, NORWOOD?

I -- YES, I SUPPOSE I DO! SORRY, CAL! BETTER LUCK NEXT TIME!



BACKSTAGE...

WELL, THAT'S OVER! I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO TAKE THAT JOB PLAYING IN THE CABARET!

DO WE HAVE A DATE TONIGHT, CAL?



A LOT DEPENDS ON HIS ANSWER. BUT BEFORE HE COULD SAY A WORD, LEE CAME UP TO US. I HADN'T KNOWN SHE WAS IN THE THEATER. I REALIZED SHE'D HEARD EVERYTHING!



BECAUSE SHE'S JEALOUS OF ME, SHE DELIBERATELY CUT YOU OUT OF THE PART, CAL! I HEARD HER TELLING NORWOOD GATES TO GIVE YOU A BRUSHOFF!

I DON'T BELIEVE YOU, LEE!



BEFORE I COULD STOP HIM, CAL WENT TO NORWOOD...

I WANT THE TRUTH! DID ALICIA TELL YOU TO TURN ME DOWN COLD, WHETHER OR NOT I RATED THE PART?

WHY, YES, BUT...



HE TURNED ON HIS HEEL AND WENT OUT WITHOUT A WORD TO ME. I FELT AWFUL! HE'D BEEN SO ANGRY, I WASN'T SURE HE WAS JUST ANOTHER SUCCESS SEEKER...



I DON'T CARE ABOUT MY PRIDE! I'D GIVE HIM THE PART TO GET HIM BACK! BUT NOW HE PROBABLY WON'T TAKE IT! LEE'S GOT HIM ON THE REBOUND!

STAGE ENTRANCE



BUT WHEN I GOT TO MY APARTMENT, CAL WAS THERE...

AFTER THIS SWEET LITTLE DOUBLE-CROSS, I'M THROUGH WITH SHOW BUSINESS! I'M GOING BACK TO MANAGE MY DAD'S SHOE FACTORY IN HANWELL!

WAIT, CAL! LET ME EXPLAIN!



CAL WAS IN NO MOOD FOR EXPLANATIONS...

HERE'S A SOUVENIR, MY CHARMING DOUBLE-CROSSER! YOU WON'T FORGET CAL PATRICK'S BEEN HERE--EVEN THOUGH I CAN SEE LOVE MEANS LITTLE IN YOUR LIFE, WHERE YOUR CAREER COUNTS!

NO!



HE WALKED OUT OF MY LIFE THEN...

DRA! THAT PHONE! OH, WHAT SHALL I DO? I'VE WRECKED MY LOVE LIFE AND THE PLAY! CAL WILL NEVER TRUST ME AGAIN!

R-RING!



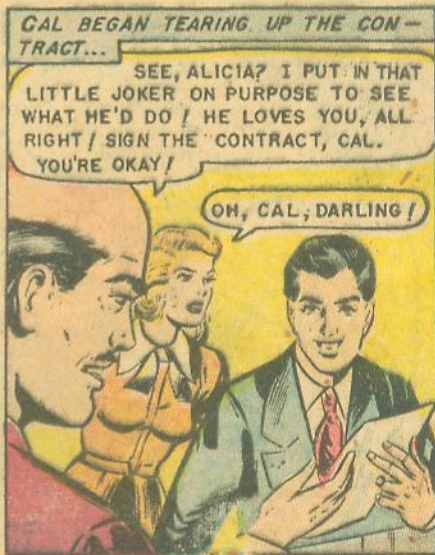
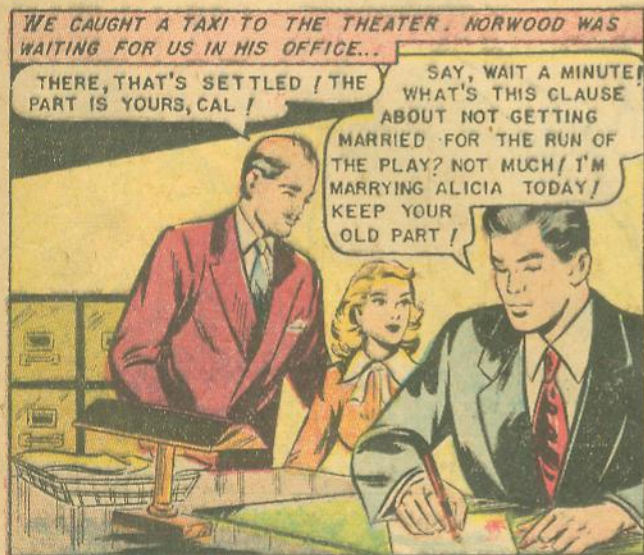
YOU'VE GOT TO GET CAL FOR THAT PART, ALICIA! THAT'S AN ORDER! I CAN'T FORGET THAT BOY'S READING OF THAT PART! HE'S TERRIFIC!

I-- ALL RIGHT, NORWOOD! I'LL GET HIM!

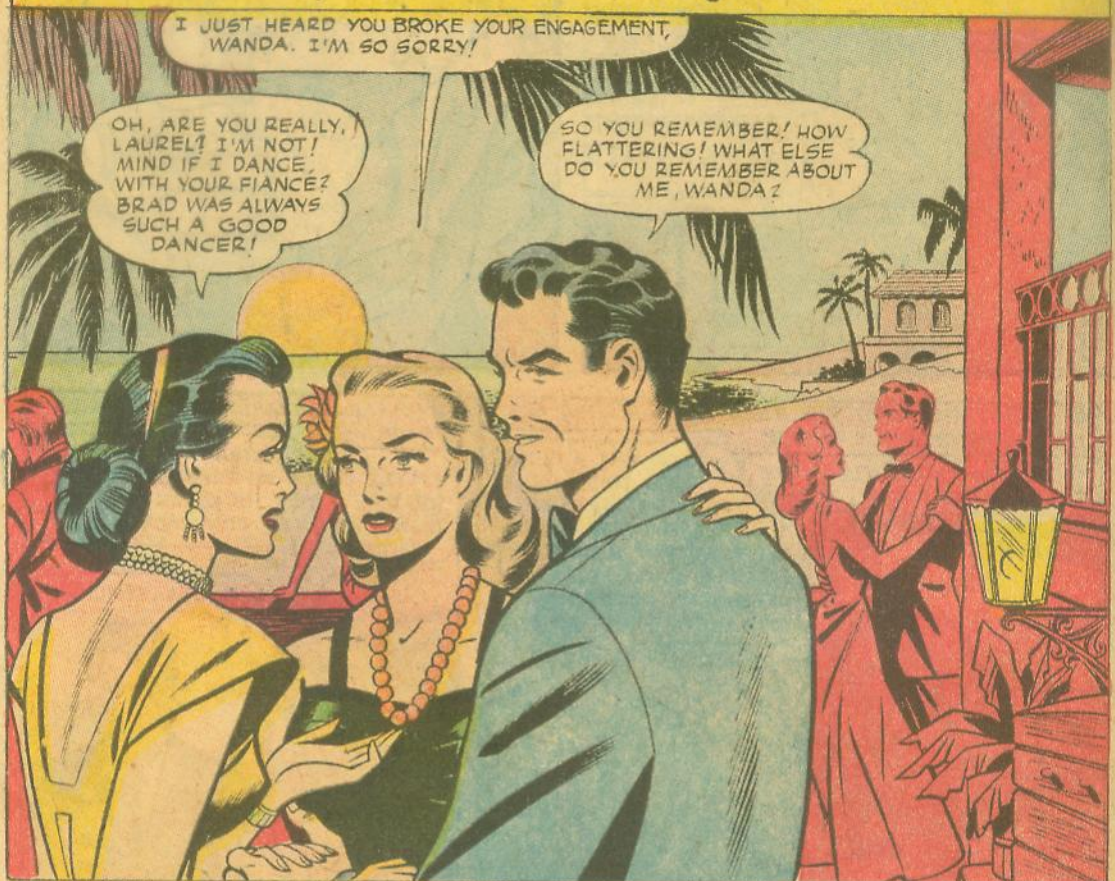


I DIDN'T WAIT TO PACK A BAG. I DASHED OVER TO GRAND CENTRAL STATION. THE NEXT TRAIN TO HANWELL WAS LEAVING IN A FEW MINUTES. WHILE I WAS WAITING FOR THE GATES TO OPEN, I SAW CAL. LEE WAS WITH HIM!





Never Sure of Him



I JUST HEARD YOU BROKE YOUR ENGAGEMENT, WANDA. I'M SO SORRY!

OH, ARE YOU REALLY, LAUREL? I'M NOT! MIND IF I DANCE WITH YOUR FIANCE? BRAD WAS ALWAYS SUCH A GOOD DANCER!

SO YOU REMEMBER! HOW FLATTERING! WHAT ELSE DO YOU REMEMBER ABOUT ME, WANDA?

THIS HAD PROMISED TO BE THE BEST WINTER SEASON IN NASSAU BECAUSE BRAD GAYNOR AND I HAD BECOME ENGAGED. BRAD HAD GIVEN ME A RUSH, AND I'D LET HIM SWEEP ME OFF MY FEET WITHOUT A THOUGHT TO WANDA, THE GIRL WHO JILTED HIM OVER A YEAR AGO AND WHOM I BELIEVED TO BE SAFELY MARRIED. BUT HERE SHE WAS NOW, HER MARRIAGE HAD NEVER TAKEN PLACE, AND SHE LOOKED MORE GLITTERING THAN EVER!

I HELD MY BREATH AS I WATCHED BRAD'S REACTION. SUDDENLY I BECAME AWARE OF LEIGH CLAYTON AT MY ELBOW. SOMEHOW HE WAS ALWAYS THERE WHEN I NEEDED HIM.



CHEER UP, LAUREL. A GIRL AS LOVELY AS YOU NEEDN'T BE JEALOUS OF ANYONE LIKE WANDA.

OH, I DON'T KNOW, LEIGH. I DON'T LIKE THAT PREDATORY GLINT IN HER EYE. I HAVE AN IDEA. LET'S GO SOMEPLACE WHERE WE CAN TALK.



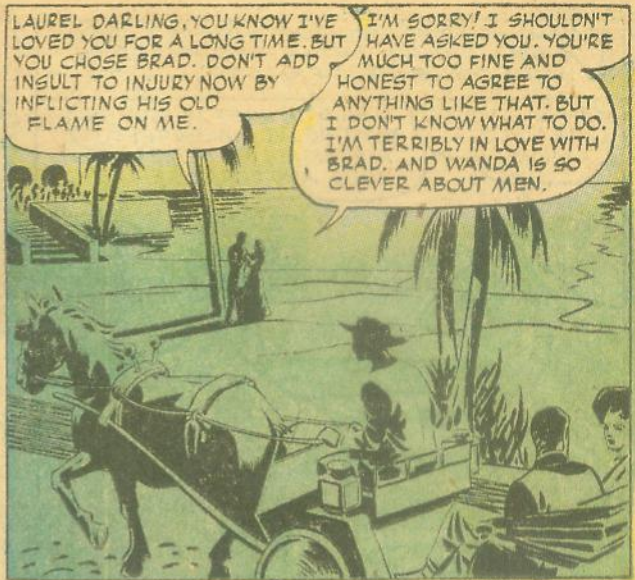
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK WANDA IS A THREAT, LAUREL? BRAD MAY HAVE LOVED HER ONCE, BUT THAT'S OVER.

BUT I CAN'T FORGET THAT IT WAS WANDA WHO JILTED BRAD, AND NOW SHE'S BACK, AND BRAD IS SO UNPREDICTABLE. LEIGH, YOU'LL HAVE TO HELP ME.





WHAT CAN I DO?
KEEP WANDA BUSY SO
SHE'LL LEAVE BRAD
ALONE.



LAUREL DARLING, YOU KNOW I'VE
LOVED YOU FOR A LONG TIME. BUT
YOU CHOSE BRAD. DON'T ADD
INSULT TO INJURY NOW BY
INFLECTING HIS OLD
FLAME ON ME.

I'M SORRY! I SHOULDN'T
HAVE ASKED YOU. YOU'RE
MUCH TOO FINE AND
HONEST TO AGREE TO
ANYTHING LIKE THAT. BUT
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO.
I'M TERRIBLY IN LOVE WITH
BRAD. AND WANDA IS SO
CLEVER ABOUT MEN.



I'VE GOT A SPLENDID IDEA! YOU CAN
SIMPLIFY THE WHOLE SITUATION BY
GIVING BRAD BACK TO WANDA AND
MARRYING ME!

OH, LEIGH.
LET'S NOT
JOKE! I'M
WORRIED.



ALL RIGHT, LAUREL. IF
YOU'RE REALLY SERIOUS
ABOUT THIS, I'LL TAKE
ON THE MAN-MAD
WANDA FOR YOU. BUT
IF YOU FEEL YOU CAN'T
TRUST BRAD, DON'T
YOU THINK NOW IS
THE TIME TO
FIND OUT?

DON'T WORRY,
LEIGH. JUST
GIVE WANDA THE
RUSH OF HER LIFE
AND LEAVE BRAD
TO ME. AND THANKS
A MILLION.



SOMETIMES I WISH WE HADN'T
GROWN UP TOGETHER. IF I'D
MET YOU LATER, I MIGHT
HAVE HAD A BETTER
CHANCE TO SWEEP YOU
OFF YOUR FEET.

LEIGH, YOU KNOW I'VE
ALWAYS LOOKED UP TO
YOU AND ADMIRED YOU.
BUT I LOVE BRAD.



LATER, DANCING WITH BRAD...

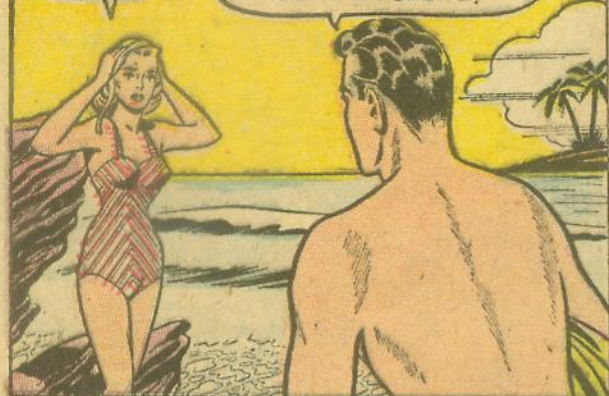
WAS IT FUN TO REHASH
OLD TIMES WITH
WANDA, BRAD?

JEALOUS, DARLING?
WONDERFUL! IT
JUST PROVES HOW
MUCH YOU
LOVE ME!

SOMEHOW I NEVER KNEW EXACTLY WHERE I STOOD WITH BRAD. I GUESS THAT'S WHAT INTRIGUED ME. HE WAS A CHALLENGE. THE NEXT DAY...

OH, BRAD. YOU'RE LATE FOR OUR SWIM.

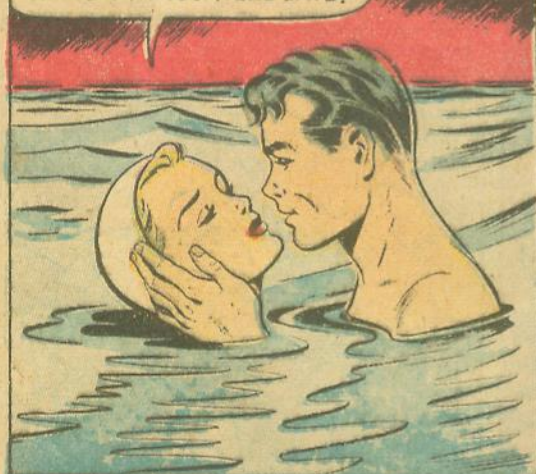
I LIKE TO KEEP MY WOMEN WAITING. IT MAKES THEM APPRECIATE ME MORE! KISS AND FORGIVE!



COME AND GET IT!

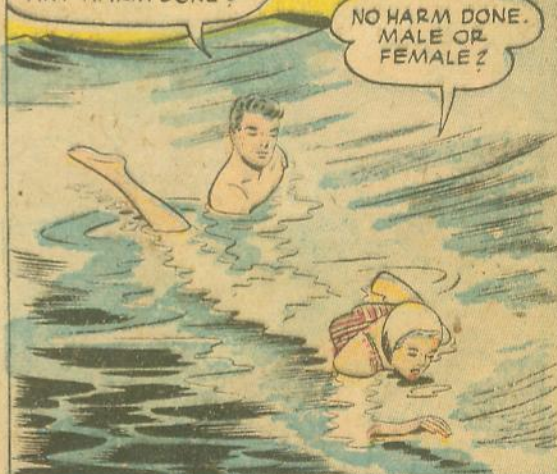


YOU WERE DRINKING SOMETHING A LOT STRONGER THAN COKE! SO THAT'S WHY YOU WERE LATE!



I RAN INTO A FRIEND. WE HAD A DRINK. ANY HARM DONE?

NO HARM DONE. MALE OR FEMALE?



WHICH? THE DRINK OR THE FRIEND? BUT IF YOU MUST KNOW, IT WAS WANDA. BEAT YOU TO THE FLOAT!



THAT'S WHAT I'D FEARED...

DO YOU LOVE ME, DARLING?

I CERTAINLY DO, DARLING! WHY?



I WAS JUST WONDERING. NOW THAT WANDA IS FREE AGAIN-- YOU SAID YOU SPENT SOME TIME WITH HER.

OH, THAT DIDN'T MEAN A THING AS FAR AS I WAS CONCERNED. POOR WANDA. AFTER SHE BROKE FROM THE OTHER GUY, SHE REALIZED SHE COULDN'T LIVE WITHOUT ME. WOMEN DON'T GET OVER ME EASILY. SO DON'T YOU EVER TRY, LAUREL, OR YOU'LL BE SORRY.



BRAD'S WORDS WERE REASSURING. AND FOR THE NEXT FEW DAYS LEIGH KEPT WANDA BUSY. I WAS FEELING SECURE ABOUT BRAD AGAIN THE NIGHT WE WENT DANCING AT THE BLUE FLAMINGO...

BUT AS WE RETURNED TO OUR TABLE...

BRAD! FANCY RUNNING INTO YOU AGAIN! HI, LAUREL!

WHY, WANDA. I DIDN'T KNOW YOU AND LEIGH HAD GOTTEN TOGETHER!

LAUREL, YOU'RE THE MOST BEAUTIFUL GIRL HERE, AND YOU'RE MINE.

OH, BRAD, YOU'RE EXAGGERATING!

I GAVE LEIGH A WITHERING LOOK. HE KNEW BRAD AND I ALWAYS WENT TO THE BLUE FLAMINGO...

AFTER SHE AND BRAD DANCED OFF, I TURNED ON LEIGH...

LEIGH'S BEEN PERFECTLY MARVELOUS-- GIVING ME SUCH A RUSH!

VERY INTERESTING! HOW ABOUT DANCING THIS ONE WITH ME, WANDA. THAT IS, IF LEIGH CAN SPARE YOU.

WITH ALL THE NIGHT SPOTS IN NASSAU TO CHOOSE FROM, YOU HAD TO BRING WANDA HERE!

HOW DID I KNOW YOU'D BE HERE TO-NIGHT? BESIDES, WANDA INSISTED. SHE CAN BE VERY PERSUASIVE-- AND QUITE CHARMING, BY THE WAY. SHALL WE DANCE?

I WAS STUNNED. COULD LEIGH BE FALLING FOR WANDA? SHE WASN'T HIS TYPE. BUT AFTER ALL, IT WAS BRAD I CARED ABOUT...

I WONDER WHAT SHE'S COOING INTO BRAD'S EAR NOW. AND I WISH THEY WOULDN'T DANCE SO CLOSE!

THAT'S JUST WANDA'S WAY. SHE CLINGS TO A MAN. IT'S VERY FLATTERING.

I DON'T KNOW WHY I WAS SO UPSET...

SO YOU'RE FALLING FOR HER. I'M DISAPPOINTED IN YOU, LEIGH.

BUT OUR PLAN IS WORKING PERFECTLY!

I FELT UNREASONABLY LOST AS I REALIZED THAT LEIGH WAS IN LOVE WITH SOMEONE ELSE. I'D GROWN SO USED TO HIS LOVING ME...

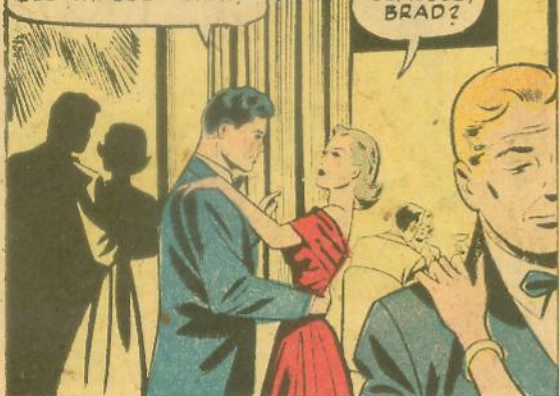
I NEVER DREAMED YOU'D FALL IN LOVE WITH WANDA. I THOUGHT YOU WERE TOO IDEALISTIC AND DEEP TO FALL FOR SOMEONE SO SUPERFICIAL.

WE MEN ARE ALL HUMAN, LAUREL.

LEIGH'S WORDS WERE DISTURBING. I WAS GLAD WHEN I WAS BACK IN BRAD'S ARMS...

WANDA THINKS SHE CAN WIN ME BACK BY MAKING ME JEALOUS. THAT'S WHY SHE'S DATING LEIGH. SHE'S DUMB IF SHE THINKS I CAN'T SEE THROUGH THAT!

ARE YOU JEALOUS, BRAD?



JEALOUS? WHEN I HAVE YOU--THE MOST BEAUTIFUL GIRL IN THE WORLD? I NEVER GOT THE BANG OUT OF BEING SEEN WITH WANDA THAT I DO WITH YOU! WHEREVER WE GO, ALL THE MEN ENVY ME!

BUT DO YOU LOVE ME, BRAD?



OF COURSE I LOVE YOU! I'VE GOT THE GIRL ALL THE OTHER GUYS WANT. IT'S VERY FLATTERING!

BUT AFTER WE'RE MARRIED, BRAD, WILL YOU STILL THINK OF ME THAT WAY? LOVE SHOULD BE LASTING. LOVE SHOULD BE--



BUT BRAD CUT ME SHORT WITH A KISS JUST AS LEIGH AND WANDA RETURNED TO THE TABLE.

LET'S NOT PHILOSOPHIZE ABOUT LOVE, SWEETHEART. LET'S JUST BE IN LOVE!

WHY, BRAD! IN FRONT OF ALL THESE PEOPLE!



I WAS EMBARRASSED. HAD HE KISSED ME FOR WANDA'S BENEFIT?

I DIDN'T MEAN TO EMBARRASS YOU, WANDA. I'M SORRY IF THAT KISS AROUSED ANY CHERISHED MEMORIES!

DON'T FLATTER YOURSELF, BRAD. LEIGH'S SO MUCH FUN, I'VE FORGOTTEN YOU!



I WAS FURIOUS. BRAD WAS CLEARLY FLAUNTING OUR LOVE IN WANDA'S FACE TO TAUNT HER. SUDDENLY HIS LOVABLE, COCKY SMILE LOOKED LIKE A SICKENING SIMPER. COULD THIS BE THE BRAD I ADORED PLAYING AT CAT-AND-MOUSE WITH WANDA? IF LEIGH WAS FOOL ENOUGH TO SIT THERE AND WATCH IT, HE COULD. I WAS FED UP!



I THINK I'D LIKE TO GO HOME NOW, BRAD.

WHAT'S WRONG, LAUREL? I'M HAVING A WONDERFUL TIME. BUT IF YOU INSIST--



AFTER THAT NIGHT I NEVER FELT QUITE THE SAME ABOUT BRAD. AND I FOUND MYSELF SPECULATING MORE AND MORE ABOUT LEIGH AND WANDA-- EVEN WHEN I WAS WITH BRAD...

THEN ONE DAY LEIGH STOPPED OVER TO SEE ME...

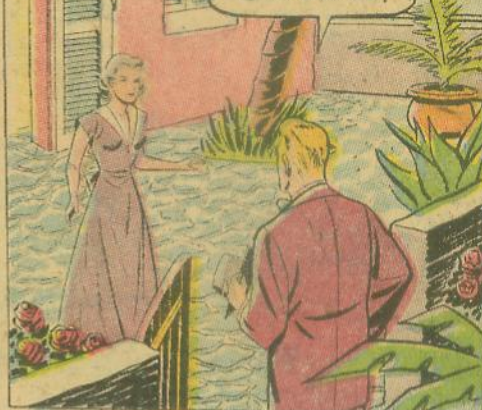
WHAT'S THE MATTER, LAUREL? YOU DON'T SEEM YOURSELF AT ALL! STILL JEALOUS OF WANDA, YOU SILLY LITTLE CHICK? SHE DOESN'T MEAN A THING TO ME, EVEN IF SHE DOES KEEP PHONING ME!

IT ISN'T THAT, BRAD. IT'S-- OH I DON'T KNOW--

I HAVEN'T SEEN LEIGH IN AGES! I SUPPOSE HE'S OUT WITH WANDA TONIGHT. I HOPE SHE DOESN'T BREAK HIS HEART!

WHY, LEIGH, HOW NICE TO SEE YOU!

LAUREL, I'VE GOT GREAT NEWS FOR YOU! YOU CAN STOP WORRYING ABOUT WANDA. SHE'S AGREED TO MARRY ME!



I WAS SHOCKED!

LEIGH, ARE YOU MAD? EVERYONE KNOWS SHE'S STILL IN LOVE WITH BRAD! AND TO THINK, I GOT YOU INTO THIS!

I THINK YOU'RE WRONG, LAUREL. WANDA DOES TEND TO BE FLIRTATIOUS, BUT IT DOESN'T MEAN A THING. SHE'S GOOD WIFE MATERIAL UNDERNEATH. I THOUGHT YOU'D BE HAPPY. AREN'T YOU GOING TO WISH ME LUCK?

PERHAPS LEIGH WAS RIGHT, AND I WAS JUST PREJUDICED. AS I GAVE HIM MY HAND, THAT AWFUL FEELING OF LOSS WRENCHED MY HEART AGAIN...

I GUESS I MUST BE WRONG ABOUT WANDA. I WISH YOU LUCK, LEIGH. LOTS OF IT!

LATER THAT DAY, BRAD AND I WENT FOR A SAIL. WE WERE BOTH RATHER MOODY...

WANDA ENGAGED TO LEIGH! THAT'S A LAUGH! WHY, SHE'S STILL CRAZY ABOUT ME!

LEIGH ISN'T ONE TO JUMP INTO ANYTHING BLINDLY, BRAD! I THINK WANDA REALLY DOES LOVE HIM!



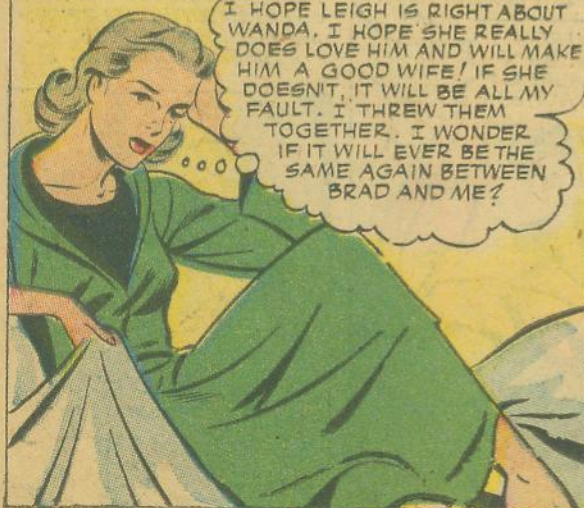
WHEN BRAD PHONED LATER TO BREAK OUR DATE FOR THE EVENING, I WAS GLAD. I WANTED TO BE ALONE...

SUDDENLY THE PHONE RANG. IT WAS LEIGH...

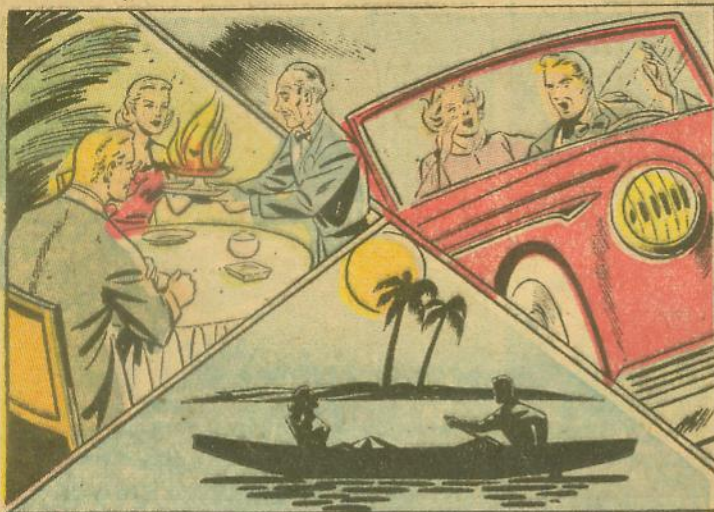
I HOPE LEIGH IS RIGHT ABOUT WANDA. I HOPE SHE REALLY DOES LOVE HIM AND WILL MAKE HIM A GOOD WIFE! IF SHE DOESN'T, IT WILL BE ALL MY FAULT. I THREW THEM TOGETHER. I WONDER IF IT WILL EVER BE THE SAME AGAIN BETWEEN BRAD AND ME?

WANDA BROKE HER DATE WITH ME TONIGHT TO SEE AN OLD FRIEND. I DON'T FEEL LIKE BEING ALONE. CAN I JOIN YOU AND BRAD?

BUT BRAD BROKE HIS DATE WITH ME, TOO!



I LET LEIGH PERSUADE ME TO GO OUT WITH HIM. HE WAS SURE WANDA WOULDN'T MIND. I'D NEVER REALIZED HOW GAY AND CHARMING HE WAS!



LEIGH SUGGESTED GOING TO A SMALL CAFE NOT USUALLY FREQUENTED BY OUR CROWD TO WIND UP THE EVENING. AS WE ENTERED...

WELL, BRAD AND WANDA! WANDA DIDN'T LIE. SHE SAID SHE HAD TO SEE AN OLD FRIEND!



BRAD DID LIE, THOUGH. OH, HOW COULD HE DO SUCH A THING?

FUNNY, I WASN'T THE LEAST BIT JEALOUS FOR MYSELF. BUT I FELT AWFUL FOR LEIGH! HE WAS SO SURE THAT WANDA LOVED HIM.

LET'S GO, LEIGH! PERHAPS TOMORROW WANDA WILL EXPLAIN.

NO. WE'LL STAY. WE MIGHT AS WELL SEE IT THROUGH NOW. THEY'LL SPOT US EVENTUALLY.



AS I DANCED WITH LEIGH, MY EYES KEPT STRAYING TO BRAD AND WANDA. THEY WERE STILL COMPLETELY UNAWARE OF ANYTHING BUT EACH OTHER. I KNEW NOW THAT MY LOVE FOR BRAD WAS DEAD!

LAUREL, I SHOULDN'T HAVE PUT YOU THROUGH THIS! YOU REALLY DO LOVE BRAD VERY MUCH, DON'T YOU?



IT WAS LIKE LEIGH TO BE WORRIED ABOUT ME WHEN HIS OWN HEART WAS BREAKING. IN A MOMENT HE WHISKED ME OUT TO THE BALCONY...

LAUREL, I CAN'T BEAR TO SEE YOU HURT LIKE THIS! PERHAPS YOU'LL FORGIVE ME FOR BRINGING YOU HERE TONIGHT WHEN I TELL YOU THAT I INTEND TO MARRY WANDA RIGHT AWAY AND TAKE HER WHERE SHE WON'T EVER COME BETWEEN YOU AND BRAD AGAIN!

BUT HOW DID YOU KNOW THEY'D BE HERE? BESIDES, IT'S YOU I'M WORRIED ABOUT!



YOU SEE, I STOPPED LOVING BRAD SOME TIME AGO. I'M SURE OF THAT NOW!

DO YOU REALLY MEAN THAT? OH, LAUREL, THEN MAYBE--



IN THE NEXT INCREDIBLE SECOND HE SWEEPED ME INTO HIS ARMS. IT WAS AN ACT SO IMPULSIVE, SO FILLED WITH TENDER MEANING, I COULDN'T HELP BUT BE DEEPLY MOVED. YET...



OH, LEIGH, I NEVER HAVE THOUGHT IT OF YOU! HOW COULD YOU KISS ME LIKE THAT WHEN YOU LOVE WANDA? WHY, YOU'RE NO BETTER THAN BRAD. I NEVER WANT TO SEE YOU AGAIN!

LAUREL, PLEASE LISTEN--

AS I RAN INSIDE, WITH LEIGH FOLLOWING ME, I BUMPED INTO BRAD AND WANDA...

LAUREL! LEIGH! WHAT IS THIS?

CONGRATULATIONS, LEIGH! OUR LITTLE SCHEME WORKED PERFECTLY! BRAD SWALLOWED THE BAIT!

LEIGH! DID YOU AND WANDA PLAN THIS SITUATION?

I'M GOING TO TAKE A CRACK AT YOU!

NOT SO FAST, BRAD! LET'S SIT DOWN AT A TABLE AND THRASH THIS THING OUT!

AT THE TABLE...

WHEN BRAD'S EYES KEPT STRAYING TO OTHER WOMEN, I REALIZED THINGS WOULD NOT WORK OUT... BRAD KNEW I STILL LOVED HIM. SO HE KEPT WRITING PLEADING LETTERS, BEGGING ME TO COME BACK AND MARRY HIM. LIKE A FOOL I DID JUST THAT--- AND THEN FOUND OUT HE WAS ENGAGED TO YOU, LAUREL!

OH, NO!

WANDA TOLD ME ALL THIS THE FIRST TIME I DATED HER. BUT I COULDN'T RUN DOWN BRAD TO YOU, LAUREL. I'D HAVE FELT LIKE A HEEL. BUT IF BRAD THOUGHT SOME OTHER MAN WANTED TO MARRY WANDA, HE'D START CHASING HER AGAIN. WE TOOK A CHANCE ON THE SHAM ENGAGEMENT SO THAT YOU COULD SEE BRAD IN ACTION AND FIND OUT ABOUT HIM FOR YOURSELF!

LAUREL, I'VE BEEN A FOOL! CAN YOU EVER FORGIVE ME? IT'S YOU I REALLY LOVE!

HERE'S YOUR RING, BRAD! I DON'T THINK YOU CAN LOVE ANYONE BUT YOUR OWN VAIN, CONCEITED SELF!

COME ON, BRAD! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE! LEIGH AND LAUREL HAVE A FEW THINGS TO SAY TO EACH OTHER!

WHEN WE WERE ALONE...

WILL YOU MARRY, DARLING? I'LL TRY VERY HARD TO TRY TO MAKE YOU FORGET YOUR EXPERIENCE WITH BRAD. I'LL LOVE YOU FOREVER AND EVER.

OH, LEIGH DEAREST, I'VE FORGOTTEN BRAD ALREADY! I DIDN'T REALLY LOVE HIM. OF COURSE, I'LL MARRY YOU! I KNOW NOW THAT YOU'RE THE MAN I'VE LOVED ALL THE TIME-- THE MAN I'VE ALWAYS LOOKED UP TO!

THE END

THE CHARM CORNER

HOW TO MEET BOYS

This problem of meeting boys has many girls puzzled. And yet, for a girl who is reasonably attractive, it shouldn't be a problem at all, if she's willing to give it thought, effort and attention.

There are three angles to the problem of meeting boys: that of the girl who knows some boys, but none she cares about, the girl who knows only other girls, and the girl who doesn't know anybody at all.

Let's begin with the assumption that you have at least one boy friend who calls you up occasionally and asks you out on dates. Let's assume he's a perfectly nice boy, but rather dull; in fact so dull that you wouldn't, and you don't, hesitate to rate him as a perfect wet smack.

But wet smack or not, he's sure to know at least one or two other boys. You can meet those boys through him.

How? Well, it's true that you can't very well say to him, "I'm very bored with your particular line—or lack of it—and I'd appreciate your bringing a few of the boys you know around for my inspection." But you can ask him to bring a friend around for your roommate, or for that rather nice, rather lonely girl you know at the office. Anything can happen on a double date!

For instance—and this is the ideal instance, of course—the boy your date brings and you might hit it off to perfection, while your girl friend might find your date just the sort of boy she likes. Tastes differ, you must remember. And before the evening is over, your double date might be entirely rearranged, and so would your prospect for next Saturday night.

Or—this is more likely to happen, of course—your girl friend and the new boy might find each other quite congenial, and a few Saturdays hence you could feel quite free to ask her to have the new boy bring a friend for you. With the nucleus of one boy—even a wet smack—and a fellow girl conspirator, you can build up a chain of boy acquaintances, and keep building it, until you come to the link in it that links with your own tastes and ideals. It can and has been done.

Of course, there's this to bear in mind: if you give the boy you don't care about the least reason to believe that you're his special property, his boy friends are going to shy away from a date with you. So be sure you don't give any boy who doesn't mean anything to you the feeling that you are his girl. Keep things on a perfectly friendly basis, until you find the boy you sincerely care for.

Be sure, too, that in your haste to discard the old

boy for the new, you don't make the mistake of neglecting to show your escort all the little attentions and courtesies to which he is entitled. Men are quick to spot and resent rudeness in a girl, whether it's directed at them or not.

But if you are interested in the new boy, you can make it perfectly clear to him that you aren't involved in entangling alliances with the old one. A casual mention of some other boy friend of yours than the one you're with, or even of some other girl friend of your escort's, indicates that there is no previous claim on your affections, and that the new boy can feel quite free to ask for your telephone number.

Now for the girl who knows only other girls. Are you one of them? Then meet boys through your girl friends!

Cultivate your girl friends. If you label your best smile "For Men Only," you aren't going to have much occasion to use it, if you don't know boys. If you can't be trusted in little things by the girls you know, you aren't apt to find yourself trusted with big things, like a six-footer brother. If you join the catty group of girls at lunch to take the office glamour girl apart, you're apt to find yourself stuck with the cats for dinner, too. Be nice to the glamour girl, if you sincerely like her; she knows men, and she's probably more interesting than the girls who criticize her. And remember, if you don't bother to put on lipstick "just for a bunch of girls," you won't stand much chance of being asked to put it on for a date with one of their boy friends. After all, when one girl takes another double dating, she wants that other to be a girl she likes, a girl she can trust, and a girl who will do credit to her taste in friends.

Be frank with your popular girl friends—and be frank with your married ones. Tell them you'd appreciate a blind date. The happily married woman doesn't live who isn't dying to make matches for all of her bachelor-girl chums. But no one is going to bother with you if you give the impression, with little white lies about dates you had, that you are having a perfectly gorgeous time all by yourself, or, worse yet, if you affect that depressing "men-bore-me" line.

Make yourself as attractive for the office and for dates with girls as you would for a date with the nicest man you know—or would like to know. Be a real friend to the girls you know, not just someone who is with them because there's no man who wants your time at the particular moment. Invite the girls you know to your home and show appreciation when they reciprocate your hospitality. Your girl friend's brother, or her husband's boy friend—any number of boys whom she knows—are boys whom you can

meet.

But take warning! If you are asked on a double date, if you are asked home to dinner by a married friend, if you're asked anywhere where you'll be in the company of your girl friend's big heart interest, stay on your side of the fence! One certain way to end a friendship with a girl and never, never be asked on a double date with her again is to make a play for the wrong boy! Be pleasant, be friendly, be as nice as you know how to be to the boy your girl friend is interested in. But don't be flirtatious with him!

Reciprocate your double dates, if you can. If your girl friend isn't seriously interested in some one boy, she'll appreciate meeting the friend of the boy to whom she introduced you. And it will broaden your acquaintanceship too.

And now for the girl who doesn't know anybody. In this class, of course, let's include the girl whose girl friends are just as badly off so far as the boy situation is concerned, as she is, the girl who doesn't have the opportunity to meet young people in her work, and the girl who is a stranger in town.

If you want to meet people, the obvious thing to do is to go where people are. If you're new in town, don't shut yourself away in a lonely room. Go to a residential hotel, a boarding house or a girl's club. You'll meet people, and if you make yourself friendly and attractive, you'll make friends. Don't neglect a single contact, whether it holds the immediate prospect of a date or not. That middle-aged woman seated at your table at dinner may have a nephew she'd love to introduce to a nice girl. Be nice to her. That kind old gentleman may have a popular daughter who could do lots socially for anyone her father introduced her to. Make a friend of him. Make it your business to make a friend whenever, wherever you can. Be pleasant, be friendly, be thoughtful. Every person you know, even the most unlikely one, is a person who may be instrumental in building up your friendship circle.

If you can't live in a place where you'll meet people, go out and meet them. There are, of course, church activities, social organizations. If you're at all sports minded, you should join gym classes, or go bowling, play tennis or ride horseback. If you enjoy dancing, join a dancing class. Take a night course in some subject in which you're interested—photography or English or stenography, you're bound to meet people in your classes. If you have political interest, join a political organization and take an active part. Every city has hiking clubs, a skating rink, bridge classes, photography clubs, a swimming pool. Every city has at least one public group that will interest you and bring you in contact with people who have the same interests. Go out and find it!

Meet people! Surround yourself with them as often as you can. Make yourself as friendly and attractive as it is humanly possible for you to be. Don't be

discouraged if your first attempts don't result in immediate success. As you mingle with other human beings in your work, your classes, your sports, you'll learn the art of getting along with people, or making friends. And the more friends you have, the sooner you'll meet him—that boy you'll choose above all others, that boy you'll marry!

DATE ETIQUETTE

1. Be ready when he calls for you. Men hate waiting—or thinking that a date with them means so little to you that you don't get ready for it until the last minute.
2. Be sure that he is introduced to the members of your family or to whomever may be in the living-room before you go into the bedroom to put on your hat.
3. Remember that it's the girl's place to get into a bus, car, or taxi first.
4. Adjust your tastes for the evening to your escort's pocketbook.
5. Remember the little courtesies to which he is entitled as your escort—the first dance if you're at a party, a proper share of your attention if you're in a crowd. Show him you're enjoying the date—like everybody else, he likes appreciation!

DON'T BE LONELY

When you're at a party, your hostess should see that you meet people. But if she doesn't, and your first efforts meet only with polite smiles, try this: Go to the powder room and pretend to be busy making up your face until some other girl comes in by herself. Then strike up a conversation with her. It can be about anything from, "Isn't this a lovely party?" to, "Do you know who that girl in green is? She looks interesting." The thing is to talk—and keep talking until she's ready to leave, whereupon you quite naturally walk out with her, introducing yourself to the people in the group she joins.

Don't be shy. Remember that people come to parties only for the purpose of meeting other people, and that they're frequently grateful to the person who makes the advances.

If you're on vacation and staying at one of those hotels where a social program is part of the entertainment, you have no problems, of course, as far as making initial acquaintances is concerned. But if you have a room in a cottage or at some quiet hotel, it's up to you to meet the people who will make your vacation an enjoyable one. Remember that at a pleasure resort the conventions that govern your at-home conduct are out. It's socially correct to speak with your fellow guests without a formal introduction.

SHE CAME BETWEEN US



JON, THIS IS LAURIE! ISN'T SHE JUST AS PRETTY AS I SAID SHE WAS?

HELEN- SHE'S EVEN PRETTIER! GLAD TO KNOW YOU, LAURIE! YOU, TOO, MARK!

HELEN AND I WORKED IN THE SAME OFFICE — BUT WE WERE MORE THAN JUST CO-WORKERS. WE WERE CLOSE FRIENDS. DURING OUR MANY TALKS WE TOLD EACH OTHER SO MUCH ABOUT OUR BROTHERS THAT WE FINALLY ARRANGED A DOUBLE DATE. I WANTED MY BROTHER MARK TO MEET HELEN, AND I MUST CONFESS THAT I WAS MORE THAN CURIOUS ABOUT HER BROTHER JON...

WHILE I DANCED WITH JON, I FELT AN INVISIBLE SPARK IGNITE BETWEEN US- A SPARK THAT SET MY HEART AFIRE! JON THRILLED ME AS NO MAN EVER HAD...

HELEN AND MARK SEEM TO MAKE A NICE TWOSOME!

NOT AS NICE A TWOSOME AS WE DO, LAURIE. LET'S SIT OUT ON THE TERRACE. I WANT TO LEARN ALL ABOUT YOU!



WE FORGOT TIME AS WE TOLD EACH OTHER ABOUT OURSELVES. I WAS FASCINATED AS JON TOLD ME ABOUT HIS BUSINESS, HIS HOBBIES AND HIS BOAT...

IT'S NOT MUCH OF A BOAT, LAURIE- BUT I'M BUILDING IT MYSELF, AND IT'S A LOT OF FUN.

I'VE ALWAYS LIKED BOATS- I'D LOVE TO SEE YOURS, JON!



BEFORE THE EVENING HAD ENDED JON HAD MADE A DATE TO SHOW ME HIS BOAT THE NEXT DAY. EARLY THE FOLLOWING MORNING WE DROVE TO THE SMALL WHARF WHERE THE BOAT WAS BEING BUILT...

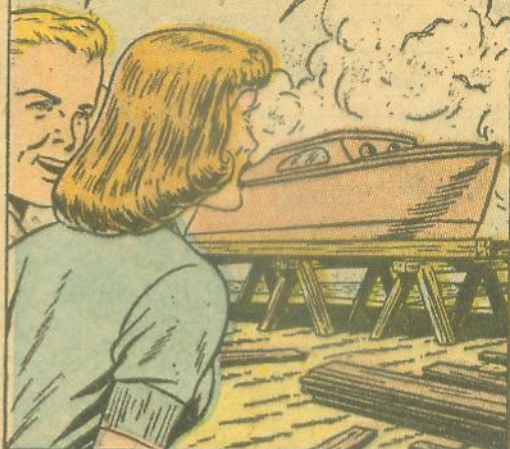
NOW CLOSE YOUR EYES TIGHT! I WANT IT TO BE A SURPRISE!

THEY'RE CLOSED! I-I CAN'T SEE WHERE I'M GOING!



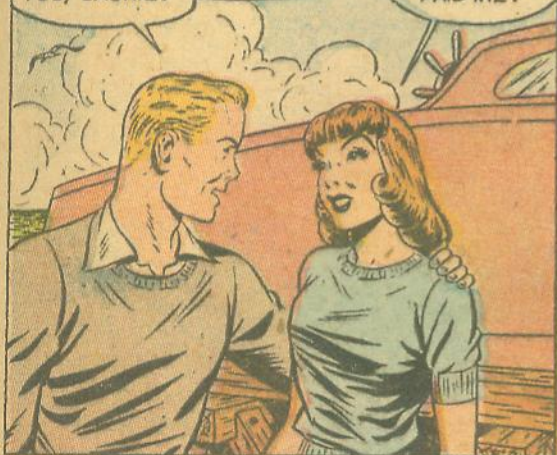
THERE IT IS! WHAT DO YOU THINK OF IT?

OH, JON, IT'S BEAUTIFUL!



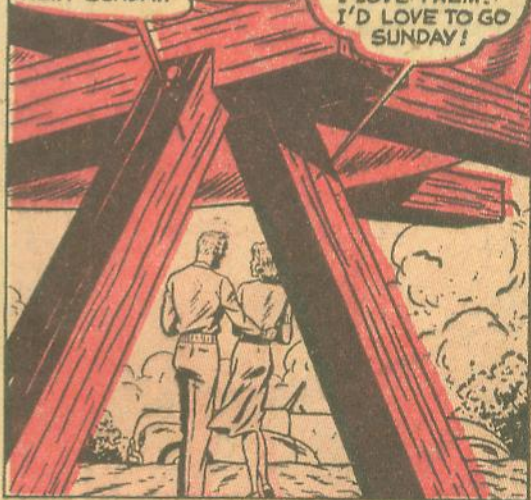
YOU'RE THE FIRST GIRL I EVER FELT I COULD TALK TO ABOUT THINGS CLOSE TO ME. I WANT TO NAME MY BOAT AFTER YOU, LAURIE.

OH, JON, THAT'S THE NICEST COMPLIMENT ANYBODY EVER PAID ME!



I HOPE YOU LIKE PICNICS- I'D LIKE TO GO ON ONE NEXT SUNDAY.

DO YOU REALLY LIKE PICNICS? I LOVE THEM! I'D LOVE TO GO SUNDAY!



THAT NIGHT AS MARK AND I PRACTICED SAMBA STEPS, I TRIED TO WORK UP A REPEAT DOUBLE DATE WITH HIM AND HELEN...

MARK, JON AND I ARE GOING ON A PICNIC SUNDAY. HOW ABOUT YOU AND HELEN COMING ALONG?

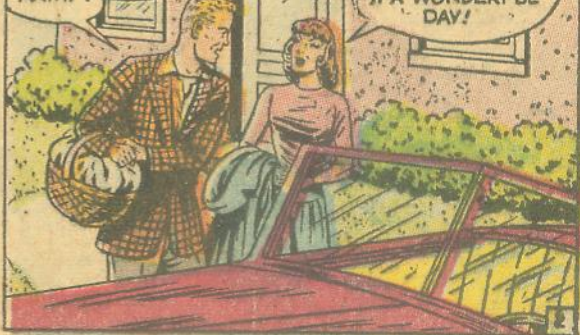
OH, LAURIE, DON'T TRY TO COOK UP ANYTHING IN THAT DIRECTION. HELEN'S NICE, BUT- WELL, I WASN'T PARTICULARLY KEEN ON HER.



THAT NIGHT I LAY AWAKE THINKING OF JON - OF THE THRILL IT WAS JUST TO BE WITH HIM... ON SUNDAY I AWOKE WITH A SONG IN MY HEART, EAGER TO BE OFF ON OUR PICNIC...

THIS BASKET WEIGHS A TON! YOU MUST HAVE BROUGHT ENOUGH FOOD FOR AN ARMY!

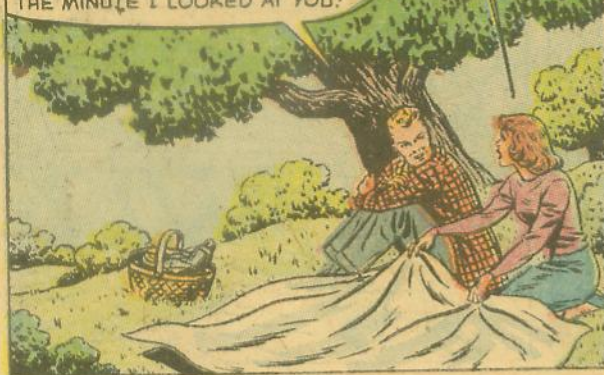
WAIT TILL YOU SEE WHAT'S IN THERE! YOU'LL WISH I HAD BROUGHT MORE! OH, ISN'T IT A WONDERFUL DAY!



IT WAS A PERFECT DAY FOR A PICNIC! AFTER WE'D DEVoured OUR LUNCH, JON TOOK MY HAND, AND MY HEART POUNDED SO HARD I WAS SURE HE COULD HEAR IT....

I NEVER BELIEVED IN LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT, LAURIE - NOT UNTIL I MET YOU! THEN IT HAPPENED - THE MINUTE I LOOKED AT YOU!

OH-HH- JON!
I -

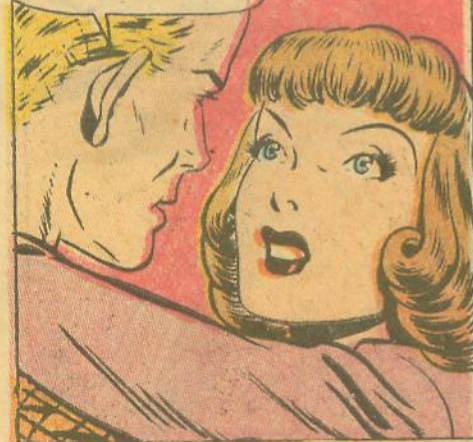


I LOVE YOU!

OH, DARLING! AND I LOVE YOU!

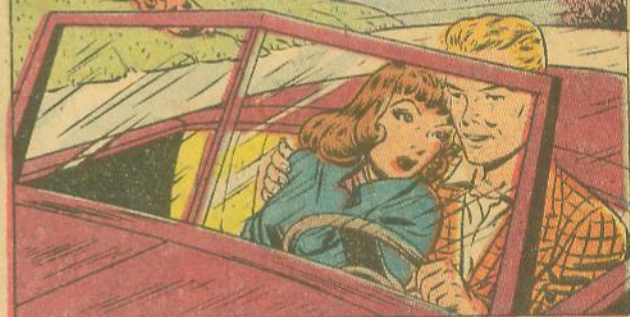


WE'RE FOR EACH OTHER, DARLING! I'M GOING TO SEE A LOT OF YOU - FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE, IF YOU'LL LET ME!



I COULD FEEL THE THRILL OF JON'S LIPS ON MY OWN WHEN WE FINALLY STARTED HOME. I FELT AS IF WE WERE RIDING ON A CLOUD INSTEAD OF IN A CAR.

WE'LL HAVE LUNCH TOGETHER TOMORROW, LAURIE! TOO BAD HELEN COULDN'T HAVE BEEN WITH US TODAY. I SORT OF HATED TO LEAVE HER ALONE!



MARK WAS IN THE LIVING ROOM - READING WHEN I GOT HOME. I THOUGHT OF HELEN ALONE ON A DAY LIKE TODAY. IF ONLY HE'D DATE HER AGAIN!

MARK - ER - WOULDN'T YOU CONSIDER MAKING ANOTHER DATE WITH HELEN?

DATE? NO, WHY?



WELL, I - I JUST THOUGHT - ER - SHE'S A WONDERFUL GIRL, SO SWEET AND -

SURE, SHE'S A SWEET KID, LAURIE, BUT STOP PROMOTING YOUR BEST FRIEND! NOT EVERYBODY CAN CLICK THE WAY YOU AND JON SEEM TO HAVE DONE!



The next day...



READY FOR LUNCH, LAURIE?

OH, I'M SORRY I CAN'T GO WITH YOU, HELEN! I'M HAVING LUNCH WITH JON TODAY!



OH... IT'S TOO BAD MARK COULDN'T MAKE IT, TOO. IT WOULD HAVE BEEN MORE FUN- THE FOUR OF US AGAIN!

Y-YES...

IT WAS A WONDERFUL LUNCH, AND EVERY MOMENT I WAS WITH JON SEEMED WONDERFUL, TOO....



JON, EVERYTHING YOU ORDERED WAS SUPERB. NOW THAT I KNOW WE LIKE THE SAME FOODS.. IT WOULDN'T BE HARD TO COOK FOR YOU.

THAT I CAN HARDLY WAIT FOR, SWEET-HEART. JUST THINK HOW WONDERFUL IT WILL BE WHEN WE'RE MARRIED!

WHEN I GOT BACK TO THE OFFICE, I TOLD HELEN ALL ABOUT OUR LUNCHEON DATE, EXPECTING HER TO BE ALMOST AS THRILLED AS I WAS. BUT SHE SEEMED DISTANT AND COOL...

-AND WE HAD SUCH A WONDERFUL TIME I HARDLY REMEMBER WHAT WE ATE. HE'S PERFECT, HELEN!

HOW ABOUT ASKING MARK TO MAKE IT A FOURSOME THIS SATURDAY NIGHT, LAURIE? WE COULD ALL GO OUT TOGETHER AGAIN!



I'D BEEN DREADING THIS REQUEST FROM HELEN, ALTHOUGH I'D FELT IT WOULD COME SOONER OR LATER. I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY. MARK ALREADY HAD ANOTHER DATE, AND I KNEW HE DIDN'T WANT TO SEE HELEN. YET, I COULDN'T HURT HER FEELINGS..



ER- MARK IS PRETTY BUSY, HELEN. I-I THINK HE'S WORKING THIS WEEK END- AND..

NEVER MIND! FORGET IT!

THAT NIGHT AFTER OFFICE HOURS, I WAITED FOR HELEN, ALTHOUGH I FELT AN INVISIBLE BARRIER HAD RISEN BETWEEN US....



COMING, HELEN?

OH, DON'T BOTHER TO WAIT FOR ME! I HAVE SOME ERRANDS TO ATTEND TO!

I SAW JON SEVERAL TIMES THAT WEEK - AND EACH TIME WE FELL MORE DEEPLY IN LOVE. BUT HELEN WAS GROWING COLDER TOWARD ME EVERY DAY. FINALLY ONE NIGHT....

HELEN - WAIT! WHAT'S BEEN THE MATTER? WHY HAVE YOU BEEN AVOIDING ME?

OH, IT'S NOTHING!



THERE WAS AN UNEASY SILENCE BETWEEN US, AND TO MAKE CONVERSATION, I BEGAN TO TALK ABOUT JON...

JON TOOK ME TO THE FIESTA ROOM THE OTHER NIGHT. IT'S VERY NICE...

WELL - I'M GLAD MY FRIENDSHIP PAID OFF! I SEE IT HELPED YOU HOOK MY BROTHER, LAURIE!



OH, DON'T PUT ON THAT SHOCKED ACT FOR ME! YOU ONLY USED ME TO GET JON - AND DON'T TRY TO DENY IT!

WH - WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, HELEN? HOW DARE YOU! I DIDN'T HOOK ANYBODY! JON AND I MEAN A LOT TO EACH OTHER!



THAT'S YOUR STORY - BUT DON'T TRY TO FOOL ME! YOU BROUGHT YOUR BROTHER AROUND UNTIL YOU WERE SURE OF JON, AND... AND... OH, JUST DON'T BOTHER ME ANY MORE!

B-BUT - HELEN!



ON OUR NEXT DATE, JON SEEMED PREOCCUPIED AND IRRITABLE. I KNEW SOMETHING WAS PREYING ON HIS MIND, AND I TRIED TO QUESTION HIM ABOUT IT...

PLEASE DON'T KEEP ASKING ME WHAT'S THE MATTER, LAURIE! YOU SOUND LIKE AN OLD NAGGER!

BUT I DIDN'T MEAN TO! OH, I GUESS WE GOT OFF ON THE WRONG FOOT TONIGHT, JON! PLEASE TAKE ME HOME!



I - I'M SORRY I WAS CROSS, DARLING! FORGIVE ME! I LOVE YOU VERY MUCH, LAURIE!

AND I LOVE YOU, JON! SO MUCH!



BUT THAT WAS ONLY THE BEGINNING OF OUR QUARRELS. JON SEEMED TO BE SEARCHING FOR THINGS TO CRITICIZE ME FOR. ON EVERY DATE HE WAS SUSPICIOUS, UNREASONABLE. THEN ONE NIGHT, AS WE WERE COMING HOME FROM THE MOVIES...

HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE THE MOST POPULAR GIRL IN THE OFFICE, LAURIE?

I DON'T KNOW THAT I'M THE MOST POPULAR. I JOKE WITH THE BOYS BECAUSE THEY'RE A NICE BUNCH, BUT THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO IT. WHY?



HOW ABOUT THAT BOSS OF YOURS? HE'S SUPPOSED TO BE A WOLF WITH THE GIRLS, AND I HEAR YOU'RE HIS PET!

JON, STOP! I HAVE A PRETTY GOOD IDEA WHERE YOU HEARD THAT HORRIBLE STUFF! HAS YOUR SISTER HELEN BEEN TELLING YOU STORIES ABOUT ME?



NOW DON'T YOU START PICKING ON HELEN! I THOUGHT SHE WAS SUPPOSED TO BE YOUR FRIEND!

SO DID I- BUT NOW I'M NOT SO SURE! (SOB)



WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT CRACK? LAURIE!

NEVER MIND... (SOB)! GOODBYE!



I RAN TO MY ROOM, FLUNG MYSELF ON THE BED AND LAY THERE CRYING UNTIL THERE WASN'T A TEAR LEFT IN ME. THE NEXT MORNING WHEN I RELUCTANTLY WENT DOWN TO BREAKFAST, IT DIDN'T TAKE MARK LONG TO NOTICE THAT MY EYES WERE SWOLLEN FROM CRYING....

DID YOU HAVE A FIGHT WITH JON, LAURIE? IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN DO?

IT'S NOTHING! DON'T BOTHER ABOUT IT. I- OH, THERE'S THE DOORBELL! I'LL ANSWER IT!



HELEN!

LAURIE- YOU MUST COME! IT'S JON! HE'S BEEN HURT! HE... HE'S IN THE HOSPITAL AND- AND KEEPS CALLING FOR YOU!



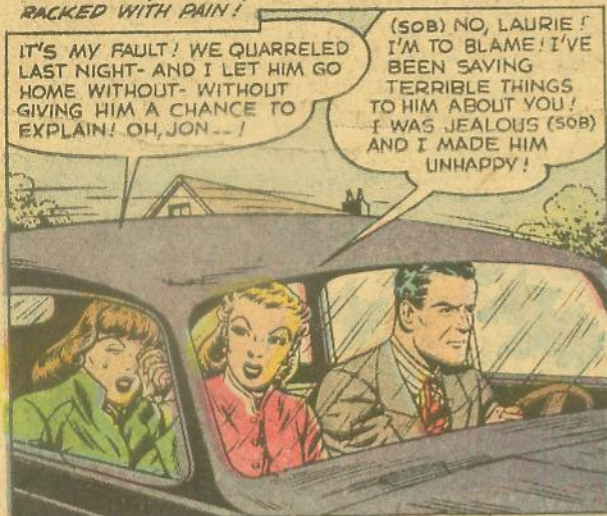
JON-!? OHHHH- NO!

HIS CAR CRASHED AFTER HE LEFT YOU LAST NIGHT! PLEASE COME, LAURIE!

I'LL DRIVE YOU BOTH OVER! WAIT TILL I GET THE CAR!



AS MARK DROVE TO THE HOSPITAL, ALL I COULD THINK OF WAS JON, MY JON, LYING ON A HOSPITAL BED, RACKED WITH PAIN!

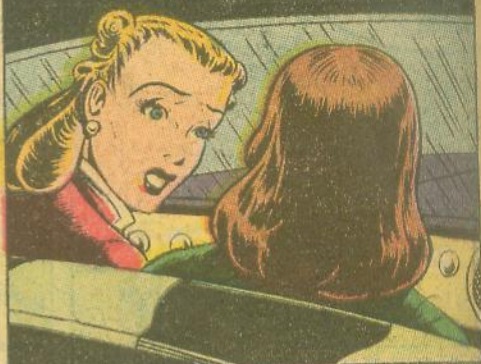


IT'S MY FAULT! WE QUARRELED LAST NIGHT- AND I LET HIM GO HOME WITHOUT- WITHOUT GIVING HIM A CHANCE TO EXPLAIN! OH, JON--!

(SOB) NO, LAURIE! I'M TO BLAME! I'VE BEEN SAYING TERRIBLE THINGS TO HIM ABOUT YOU! I WAS JEALOUS (SOB) AND I MADE HIM UNHAPPY!

OH, LAURIE- FORGIVE ME! I MADE YOU BOTH UNHAPPY! DON'T HATE ME! (SOB)

YOU DIDN'T KNOW WHAT YOU WERE DOING, HELEN!



IT SEEMED LIKE AN ETERNITY BEFORE MARK BROUGHT THE CAR TO A SCREECHING STOP IN FRONT OF THE HOSPITAL. I RAN INSIDE AND RUSHED UP TO JON'S ROOM, WITH MY HEART POUNDING OUT THE ONE WORD THAT MEANT ANYTHING TO ME- JON, JON, JON!

ARE YOU THE LAURIE HE KEEPS ASKING FOR? GO RIGHT IN, YOUNG LADY! I THINK YOU'RE THE MEDICINE HE NEEDS!



LAURIE-LAURIE-! OH, DARLING, YOU'RE HERE!

YES, DEAR- HERE! I LOVE YOU! PLEASE GET WELL!



I HAD AN IDEA SHE'D BE THE TONIC HE NEEDED! HE'LL BE ALL RIGHT NOW! LET'S LEAVE THEM ALONE!

OH, DEAREST- DON'T EVER LEAVE ME AGAIN!

NEVER, JON! WE BELONG WITH EACH OTHER, AND WE'RE GOING TO STAY THAT WAY- ALWAYS!



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THE ANSWERS TO THESE PROBLEMS ARE HERE!

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